

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings! I hope your 2022 is off to a spectacular start and you are energized about what the future holds. SACC Carolinas continues to develop and deliver events and webinars designed to improve and enhance your SACC experience.

We had our annual meeting on January 27 and our new Board of Directors were approved by our members (<u>www.sacccarolinas.org</u>)

This Newsletter is dedicated to our Talent Mobility Program. We continue to see signs of a tighter labor market with demand of specific skills and rising competition. In a recent survey, about 70% of companies have reported talent shortages and difficulty hiring qualified workers. Companies with least flexibility as well as workplace-based positions are having the most difficulty filling jobs right now. The demand for soft skills is more important than ever. Large companies (250+ employees) are struggling the most to recruit and retain talent, compared to small firms.

In view of this development, we are featuring not only our current trainees but also alumni with their tremendous network. Personally, I am impressed with the knowledge and skills these young professionals have brought to our organization. I am also overwhelmed with their attitude, vision, and willingness to help us enhance our member offerings. Our chamber is growing and this is without doubt due to our talented trainees.

We strongly recommend that you as a member take this opportunity to benefit from our talent program as it can be beneficial to small, medium, and large companies. Furthermore, SACC USA has signed a three-year agreement with 12 Swedish universities to focus on knowledge-exchange in innovation, science, and entrepreneurship with increased talent mobility for students and researchers between Sweden and the USA.

We had an informative tax webinar in February, and on March 8 we will recognize the International Women's Day. Our ambition for this year is to offer our members at least one event/webinar per month.

As a member of SACC Carolinas, you have the exclusive opportunity to host a corporate tour at your company and we hope that you take advantage of this chance to showcase your company to our members.

Additionally, we are in process of adding more features to our website to become more intuitive and better structured.

Finally, a reminder of our flagship event, the Executive Forum, at House of Sweden in Washington D.C. is coming up on June 2. You can secure your ticket with memberservices@sacc-usa.org

As always, our members are the core of our existence and we appreciate you being with us and that we mutually can support each other. I wish you all a great 2022.

Best Regards,

Riber Gustafson

President of SACC Carolinas

Want to advertise your company or host an event through our platforms?

Do you want to learn more about our organization? Expand your network and have input on SACC Carolinas development?

If you are interested in promoting your venture to our members, we would gladly help you by using our platforms. It can be an ad, a sponsor spotlight in our newsletter, physical or digital event. If you are willing to sponsor an event or advertise, reach out to us and we will make it become reality.

Become a Member.

We are a non-profit organization, and our mission is to promote and advance business relations between the Carolinas and Sweden. If you are not yet a member and would like to become a part of our Chamber and its network, please <u>click here and let us know your interest</u>.

We encourage all our members to get involved in one of our committees:

- Event/Webinar
- Recruitment/Membership
- Special Projects

Become a Committee Member.

We welcome any of our members to volunteer on one of our three committees, such as Event/Webinar, Recruitment and Marketing/Communications committee.

GREETINGA FROM OUR INTERNS: Sofie and Zakarias



SOFIE LIANG

I began my marketing and communication internship at SACC Carolinas autumn 2021, while completing my last semester in my BSc in Business Administration and Economics at Lund University. Due to the pandemic, I was unable to travel to the US and therefore had my first digital meeting in the evening due to the six hour time difference between Sweden and Carolinas. I am currently continuing my internship at Carolinas since I believe there is still room for me to learn and improve.

I applied to SACC because I wanted to work more hands on and apply textbook knowledge in the work place. Additionally, it is always fun to improve my English proficiency, not only casually but also in a business related context. Since I was the second ever intern at our chamber, there were lots of room for new ideas, which made my internship very fun. I hosted a cryptocurrency webinar, together with SACC Georgia, which was fun to arrange. I met lots of members from both chambers, whilst also getting to know other interns at SACC.

ZAKARIAS GRÖNKVIST

It is early March in Lund, Sweden and it could not have been any colder. My name is Zakarias, I'm 24 years old and have just graduated with a bachelors in business and administration. Through Lund University, we got the opportunity to apply for internships. One name on the list stood out to me, "SACC -Carolinas". My interest for the US began at a young age, all the best series and movies were produced there and I knew - that's something I want to experience. In addition, my dad worked at Volvo on the east coast for a couple of years and together with my sister we got to travel from New York down to Miami. This affection for the US, combined with my fascination for business and trade resulted in an immediate application. A month later, while on a trip to Berlin, I received a phone call from an extremely kind and warm man, Riber Gustafson, saying: "We want you".

Currently, I'm a business development intern at SACC -Carolinas, doing everything from creating webinars to highlighting our beloved members. I look forward to many things while pursuing this internship, but one thing to emphasize is the upcoming webinar on International Women's day - that will truly be a success!



ALUMNI NETWORK



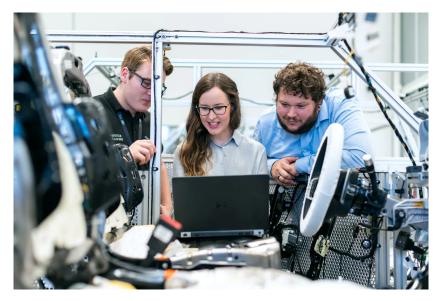
The SACC Alumni Network is open to anyone who has been a trainee or intern in the US through SACC, as well as anyone who is, or have been, a trainee through the SACC American Talent to Sweden program. The program is a forum for networking and career development. The program plays an important role in the continued success of future SACC Network.

- Network: As a SACC Alumni, you are part of a group of talented young professionals that have work experience from the US market. Networking in a diverse of SACC-Alumni could lead to new career opportunities in a different industry or you might learn about open positions in companies you didn't even know existed.
- Keep your connections to the US: Through SACC-USAs strong connections to the US Embassy and AmCham Sweden, the SACC Alumni Program is an opportunity to keep you connected to the US. As a SACC Alumni, you will also be invited to other events hosted and organized by SACC-USA (e.g. SACC-Summit in the US), the US Embassy and AmCham.
- Visibility: Being part of a strong and attractive pool of talented young professionals gives you visibility to important stakeholders on the Swedish market. SACC-USA has several influential board members based in Sweden, who will attend and speak at SACC Alumni events.
- An opportunity to advocate for strong Swedish-American relations: Being part of a big group of young professionals with experience and interest in Swedish-American trade relations puts you in a strong position to advocate for even stronger ties between Sweden and the US.
- Social activities: The SACC-alumni will also provide opportunities to connect with like-minded over less formal events such as after-work activities and Happy Hours. Join our <u>LinkedIn group</u> to stay connected with fellow SACC Alumni and don't miss out on information on upcoming SACC Alumni events!

Click on the LinkedIn button below to stay connected with us!



SIREUS: A COLLABORATION BETWEEN SACC-USA & 12 SWEDISH UNIVERSITIES



The Swedish American Chambers of Commerce of the USA is thrilled to announce the launch of SIREUS, a three year long collaborative project between SACC-USA and 12 Swedish universities. The project is supported by the Embassy of Sweden in Washington, DC and the Swedish Institute, and will establish and operate a structured platform for increased talent mobility and knowledge exchange between Sweden and the USA in the areas of innovation, research and entrepreneurship.

Despite its relatively small population, Sweden is one of the most innovative countries in the world. Meanwhile, the United States is home to many top universities and global corporations. With its launch of SIREUS, SACC-USA and the 12 partner universities will strengthen the important bonds between universities and companies from two leading research nations – an important and timely endeavor that stands to benefit both of our countries." says Karin Olofsdotter, Ambassador of Sweden to the United States. For more information or interview request, please contact SACC Carolinas at https://sacccarolinas.org/contact

INTERNS FROM CHALMERS



FOR U.S. COMPANIES

GET AN ENGINEERING GRADUATE

FROM CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SWEDEN



We are thrilled to tell you that skilled engineering students are looking for internships in the U.S. These students come from the Chalmers University of Technology, one of the top engineering universities in Sweden. They study Engineering Physics, Mechanical Engineering, Engineering Mathematics, Industrial Engineering & Business Management, Computer Engineering and Chemical Engineering.

If you have any more questions or are interested in letting one of these talents join your organization, please reach out to: <u>http://sacccarolinas.org/contact</u> or vera.edwall@sacc-usa.org working at the Talent Mobility Program at SACC - USA.

Visit our website for more news items

UPCOMING EVENTS



SACC-USA presents: PDI's Accelerate Your Success Lunch & Learn Series



Join them!			
When:	12-1:00 PM	I ET	

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Leadership	Bonnie Bruce	3/16
Marketing	John Robins	3/23
Sales	Jim Mecom	3/30
	Sign up here!	

The Swedish-American Chambers of Commerce of the United States of America (SACC-USA) cordially invites you to our flagship event, the Executive Forum, on June 2, 2022 in Washington D.C. The event is held in collaboration with the Embassy of Sweden in House of Sweden.

Sign up and learn with PDI's Lunch & Learn Series to Accelerate Your Success!

Join us and learn how to use some of the many tools and strategies to market yourself and your business successfully! The following topics, presenter and dates are:

- 3/16 Leadership with Bonnie Bruce
- 3/23 Marketing with John Robins
- 3/30 Sales with Jim Mecom

Sign up here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pdis-lunch-learn-seriesregistration-294014875407?utm-campaign=social&utmcontent=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utmsource=cp&aff=escb



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Click to see all of our upcoming events

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